

SENATE BILL 378
By Ketron

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 2,
Chapter 6, Part 5, relative to voting by members of
the armed forces.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 2, Chapter 6, Part 5, is amended by
adding the following as new sections:

2-6-504.

(a) Any member of the United States armed forces while on active duty overseas, who is otherwise qualified to vote, in addition to any other method of making application for an absentee ballot under this part, may make application for an absentee ballot to the county election commission office of the county in which the applicant is a resident by facsimile transmission or similar electronic means not less than ten (10) days before the election.

(b) The coordinator of elections in accordance with § 2-11-201(c), shall promulgate rules and regulations to effectuate the provisions of this section.

2-6-505.

(a) The coordinator of elections in accordance with § 2-11-201(c), shall promulgate rules and regulations to allow a person to return an absentee ballot by facsimile transmission or similar electronic means if the person:

(1) is a member of the United States armed forces who is on active duty overseas; and

(2) is casting a ballot from an area:

(A) in which members of the armed forces are eligible to receive hostile fire pay or imminent danger pay; or

(B) that has been designated by the president of the United States as a combat zone.

(b) The rules shall:

(1) provide for verification of the voter;

(2) provide for the security of the transmission; and

(3) require a record to be maintained of each ballot received

under this section.

SECTION 2. For purposes of promulgating rules and regulations, this act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it. For all other purposes, this act shall take effect January 1, 2006, the public welfare requiring it.